

THE
DISSEMINATOR
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THE DISSEMINATOR

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An electronic newsletter from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library

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Available on the WWW at:

<http://rs6000.nshpl.library.ns.ca/provlib/disseminator/> -OR-

<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/eppp-archive/disseminator/>

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Questions or comments about the activities in this issue should be directed to the contact people named. Comments on or suggestions for THE DISSEMINATOR should be directed to Sue Dirani ([sdirani](#)). To add a name to the mailing list, send a message to Michael Gillis ([mgillis](#)).

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DIRECT TO YOUR MAILBOX!

Attention all faithful readers (possibly millions!) in the province of Nova Scotia and beyond! If you get THE DISSEMINATOR second-hand (i.e. passed on to you from someone else who receives it by e-mail) but would like to receive your OWN copy, here's your chance. Anyone with an e-mail account can get a copy of THE DISSEMINATOR - just send a message to Michael Gillis (mgillis@nshpl.library.ns.ca) and ask to be added to our mailing list. For those who still receive the DISS on paper, why not save a few trees and have it sent automatically to your e-mail account? Contact Michael to add your name to the ever growing list of e-mail subscribers. As an alternative, you can view ALL the issues of the DISSEMINATOR on the WWW at the URL: <http://rs6000.nshpl.library.ns.ca/provlib/disseminator/>. -- Sue Dirani

COMMUNITY ACCESS PROJECT GRANTS

On December 19, Industry Canada announced approval of seventeen grants to Nova Scotia communities to provide pubic access to the Internet. Several additional proposals were approved by the Provincial Steering Committee, some of which may yet receive funding in the current fiscal year if financial resources permit.

Sixty-five proposals were reviewed by the Nova Scotia Provincial Steering Committee and ranked using established criteria. The Nova Scotia Committee consists of representatives of the Dept. of Education and Culture, Economic Renewal Agency, Industry Canada, Nova Scotia Federation of Community Networks, NovaKnowledge and individuals from several regions of the province. The following seventeen projects were approved for 100% funding by Industry Canada: Arichat/En route Isle Madame; Barrington Passage; Canso/Eastern Guysborough Dev. Assoc.; Chester; Comte de Digby; Digby Community Access; Digby Neck; Dingwall/North of Smokey Assoc.; Glace Bay; New Waterford/ Mount Carmel Elementary; Port Hood; Richmond County; L'Ardoise; Sheet Harbour/Duncan MacMillan School; Sydney/Cape Breton Regional Library; Windsor; Yarmouth/Argyle School Assistance; and Yarmouth/Southwestern Coastal Telecommunities. For more information, contact Marion Pape (mpape@nshpl.library.ns.ca).

DID YOU KNOW...

...that in the early 1900's Nova Scotia passed legislation to allow three towns to establish public libraries? "An Act to Establish a Public Library in the Town of Amherst" was passed in 1902, "An Act to Enable the Town of Sydney to Provide Money for the Support of a Free Public Library" in 1903 and "An Act to Establish a Public Library in the Town of Truro" in 1906.

Here are some interesting clauses from these acts:

"The Committee of Management shall consist of twelve persons, six of whom shall be men and six of whom shall be women." (Truro Act)

"The citizens of the town of Amherst shall, subject to such restrictions as the town council or the committee of management with the approval of the town council prescribe, be entitled to the use and enjoyment of the said library." (Amherst Act)

The Town of Truro was empowered to appropriate what was needed to equip, maintain and support a public library but the amount could not "...exceed in any one year the sum of five thousand dollars."

The Town of Sydney received a donation of \$15,000 from Andrew Carnegie to build the building, "...on condition that the said town of Sydney contribute annually towards the support of the library the sum on one thousand five hundred dollars." The Town of Sydney paid \$5,700 for the land.

Amherst did not have any annual dollar limit on what it could spend on the library; however, funding for the library was "...rated annually on the inhabitants and on the property within the said town...". -- Betsy Armstrong

SCHOOL LIBRARIES COORDINATOR READVERTISED

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library is seeking applicants for the permanent position of School Libraries Coordinator. The position reports directly to the Provincial Librarian and the incumbent is responsible for providing coordination and consultant services on school library development to Department of Education and Culture and District School Board personnel including promoting information literacy and resource sharing initiatives for the benefit of students. The Nova Scotia Provincial Library operates in a fully automated environment using DRA/MultiLIS software on a province-wide Internet based network. There is a commitment to use technology to improve access to information for all Nova Scotians which includes public access to the Internet from public libraries, community colleges and some schools.

Qualifications: an MLS from an accredited program plus a Bachelor of Education or teacher training, and a minimum of six years of professional library and/or teaching experience. Experience with technology applications is essential. Excellent interpersonal and communications skills. Working knowledge of French and experience with CD-ROM and Internet communication are assets.

Salary Range: \$50,845-\$58,164; full Civil Service benefits

Competition Number: 24-0300; Closing Date: January 18, 1996

Applications documentation must be received at the Dept. of Human Resources by mail or delivery by 4:30 PM or FAX by 12:00 midnight on the closing date. Please direct applications to: Nova Scotia Department of Human Resources, Client Services Division, 1700 Granville Street, P.O. Box 943, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 2V9, FAX - (902) 424-0611.

INTERNET USE POLICIES

Following concerns expressed at the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library regarding public access to the Internet, the Provincial Library and PARL staff developed an Acceptable Use Policy and a consent/waiver form. The consent form must be signed by all adult users and by a parent or guardian of child users prior to their first use of the Internet. The policy clearly states that the Internet contains information that may be offensive to some, and that parents, rather than library staff, are responsible for what their child accesses. Copies of the policy and related forms were sent to each Regional Librarian in Nova Scotia for their information. Now that the policy is in place, the Internet is off and running again. Terminals are booked solidly and public response has been very enthusiastic.

INTERNET ACCESS IN ANNAPOLIS VALLEY

November 6, 1995 was the first official day that the Internet was available to the public in the Annapolis Valley Regional Library branches. Internet access has been met with much enthusiasm by the public. The 30 minute openings, booked in advance, have nearly all been filled and in many branches the demand exceeds the availability. AVRL is now in the process of installing another computer in 8 branch libraries.

Branch staff have reported that the computers have increased the traffic in the library and there has been a corresponding increase in the use of more traditional library services. Many people are visiting the branch for the first time in order to use the Internet but then discover the other services available to them. The library has also received some media coverage in the past month promoting the Internet in libraries. On November 5th the Annapolis Valley Radio station aired an interview on the use of the Internet in libraries. The attendance and interest in the Internet Information Sessions and Demonstrations being held in each branch library is encouraging and the feedback to branch staff has been very positive.

-- Charlotte Janes, Annapolis Valley Regional Library

STRATEGIC PLAN

The working group has met twice in an effort to organize the remaining strategic plan process. They have identified information gaps, and have brainstormed on how to eliminate them. The process was temporarily derailed when consultant Sharon Horne endured a bout of appendicitis, but will get back on track again soon. The working group is made up of Sharon Horne, Linda MacDonald, Frances Newman/

Heather MacKenzie, Janet Clark and Andrea John.

METRO LIBRARY AMALGAMATION

Effective April 1, 1996, the Halifax City, County and Dartmouth Regional libraries will be amalgamated into one system that will include bookmobile service, books by mail service and 13 branches serving a population of about 340,000 spread over an area roughly the size of Prince Edward Island.

The process was initiated as part of municipal amalgamation announced by the Provincial Government in October 1994. Unlike city departments, the new library system will be the responsibility of an amalgamated library board, to be appointed when the Halifax Regional Municipality officially takes office. The new director of the combined library system will be appointed by the amalgamated library board. That director will, in turn, appoint senior library staff.

The new organization of the combined system has been approved by the Joint Amalgamation Committee, made up of representatives from the three existing regional library boards. The JAC has hired former HCLRL Chief Librarian Diane MacQuarrie and former HCLRL Deputy Chief Librarian Pauline Hildesheim as Acting Director and Acting Deputy Director to the committee. Staff members of the three library systems have been assembled into a series of task forces to examine various levels of library service and to make recommendations to the CEOs. Coordinators from the three systems are also meeting on a regular basis with the chief librarians and the JAC staff.

BLACK CULTURAL CENTRE HOLDINGS ONLINE

The African-Canadian experience in Nova Scotia - as reflected in the works of art, music and historical documents of the Black Cultural Centre - is being digitized. Dr. Jon Gerrard, the Secretary of State for Science, Research and Development, announced federal support for the initiative on Dec. 11. The project, one of a series in the digitization of Canadian collections under the national SchoolNet, originates from a collaboration between the National Library of Canada and the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. Through the project, students will be funded to acquire new skills in digitization and begin the creation of a valuable electronic database of information. For a backgrounder or more information on this project, contact Marion Pape (mpape@nshpl.library.ns.ca).

DALHOUSIE LIBRARIES HOSTING FILM SERIES

Three Sundays in January will see the presentation of three classic films which feature libraries in a significant way.

January 14 - Name of the Rose

Secret books in a Benedictine library in 14th century Italy and the mysterious deaths of monks. Is there a link?

January 21 - Desk Set

Spencer Tracy and Katherine Hepburn battle over technology in a corporate library. Who will win?

January 28 - Fahrenheit 451

In a future society, books are forbidden, and libraries non-existent. Could this be our future?

This is one of a series of events celebrating Dalhousie University Libraries on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of construction of the Killam Memorial Library. All film showings begin at 8:00 PM in the MacMechan Auditorium, Killam Library. Films will be introduced by film buff and librarian, Tim Ruggles. Admission is free. For information, call 494-3601.

LINKed

How popular is the WWW? Well, in July 1995 the N.S. Provincial Library's home page (<http://rs6000.nshpl.library.ns.ca>) was accessed just over 3,000 times. In October 1995, it was accessed over 27,000 times! In keeping with the ever growing popularity of the Web, we're beginning a new column this month featuring WWW sites that may be of interest to our readers. If you know of any interesting sites, e-mail me (sdirani@nshpl.library.ns.ca) and I'll include them here.

Government of Canada Primary Internet Site

<http://canada.gc.ca>

- a single electronic access point to general information about Canada and to a wide variety of federal government information and services.

Collection of Acceptable Internet Use Policies

<http://www.intac.com/~kgs/freedom/policies.html>

- links to policies developed and implemented in libraries and schools

Canada Net Financial Information

<http://www.visions.com/finance/finance.html>

- all kinds of Canadian financial information such as mutual funds, real estate, etc.

WWW Virtual Library

<http://www.w3.org/hypertext/DataSources/bySubject/Overview.html>

- WWW info organized by subject

NYNEX Interactive Yellow Pages

<http://www.niyp.com/>

- thousands of American company listings

CBC Homepage

<http://www.cbc.ca>

- find schedules and information about your favourite CBC program (radio and television)

PROFESSIONAL READING

The following books are two of the most recent additions to our expanding Professional Collection. Materials mentioned in this column may be borrowed through regular ILL channels.

1) Futas, Elizabeth - Collection development policies and procedures. 3rd edition. Phoenix : Oryx Press, 1995. (Call # Prof. 025 .2 col)

- This book, a complete revision of Futas' earlier book " Library Acquisition Policies and Procedures", includes four complete collection development policy statements, along with excerpts from 61 others covering missions, goals, objectives, fund allocation, selection policy, selection responsibility, collection levels, selection criteria, approval plans, gifts, legal issues, intellectual freedom, consortia, collection maintenance, subjects and formats of material. Of special interest is discussion of selection criteria for electronic resources and online services.

2) Guidelines for the Education of Library Technicians. 2nd edition. Ottawa: Canadian Library Association, 1991. (Call # Prof. 020 .7071 Gui)

- This publication is the latest addition to the growing "standards" section of our Professional Collection. These guidelines, established by the Canadian Library Association to promote excellence in the training and education of library technicians, outline requirements for curricula, continuing education, support facilities, admissions and advisory committees. -- Frank Oram

